

valves on the radiators, thermostatic return traps on the returns, and traps on all drips unless they are water sealed. Such a system, illustrated in Fig. 10, should be equipped with an automatic return trap to prevent the water from backing out of the boiler. In this up-feed arrangement the supply piping is carried to a high point directly at the boiler and is graded down toward the end or ends of the supply main, each supply main being dripped at the end into the wet return or carried back to a point near the boiler where it drops down below the boiler water line and becomes a wet return. From this main, runouts are branched off to feed risers or radiators above, these being graded back toward the steam main

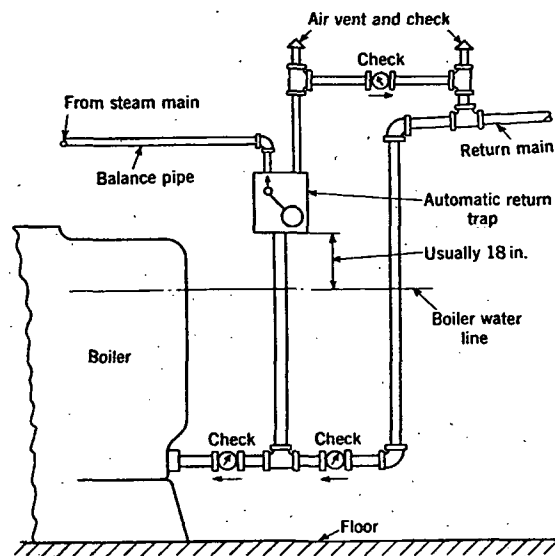


FIG. 11. TYPICAL CONNECTIONS FOR AUTOMATIC RETURN TRAP

if they are not dripped at the bottom of the riser, or toward the riser if the riser heel is dripped. Both conditions are illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3.

Return risers are connected to each radiator on its return end through thermostatic traps. Their bottoms are connected to the return main through runouts which slope toward the main. The return main itself is sloped back toward the boiler if it is carried overhead; if run wet, the slope may be neglected, although it is desirable to slope the pipe so that the system may be drained. An air vent is installed at the point at which the return main drops below the water line. In the simplest cases this vent consists of a $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. pipe with a check valve opening outward, but certain systems employ special patented forms of vent valves, designed to allow the air readily to pass out of the system and to prevent its return. A check valve is inserted in the return main at a point near the boiler and a vertical pipe is run up into the bottom of the return trap, which usually

is located with the bottom about 18 in. above the boiler water line. Some traps are constructed so that they will operate when they are installed with their bottom as close as 8 in. above the boiler water line. On the other side of this connection a second check valve is installed in the main return just before it enters the boiler (Fig. 11).

Down-Feed Two-Pipe Vapor System

In the down-feed two-pipe vapor system the steam is carried to the top of the building, the top of the vertical riser constituting the high point of the system, and the horizontal supply main is sloped down from this location to the far ends of each branch. The branches are taken off the main from the bottom or at a 45-deg angle downward, with the runouts

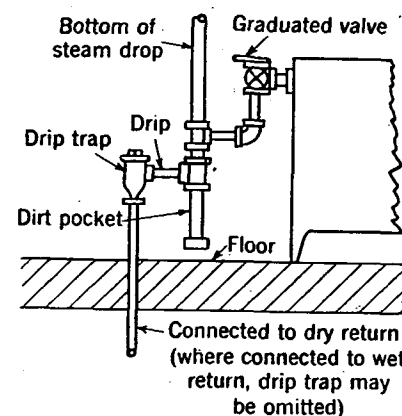


FIG. 12. DETAIL OF DRIP CONNECTIONS AT BOTTOM OF DOWN-FEED STEAM DROP

sloped toward the drops (Fig. 6). Thus each branch from the main forms a drip and no accumulation of water is carried down any one drop. Another method of running the steam main, which is not considered as satisfactory but which is practical, is to take the branches off the top of the main (Fig. 7) and to drip the end of the main through the last riser, as illustrated in the down-feed one-pipe system detail shown in Fig. 6. If this is done, the pipe drop at the end or ends of the mains should be enlarged one pipe size to provide capacity for this concentration of the main drip.

The steam drops are carried down through the building with suitable reductions as the various radiator connections are taken off until the lowest radiator runout is reached. If the drop is only two or three stories high, the portion feeding the bottom radiator should be increased one pipe size to provide for draining the riser, and if the drop is over three stories high it is well to increase the portion feeding the two lowest radiators one or two pipe sizes, especially if the two lowest radiators are small and the normal size of drop required is 1 in. or less. The bottom of the steam drops should terminate with a dirt pocket above which a drip trap